

Leicester, Oct. 19, 1862.

Dear Burleigh,

Next Thursday the Exec. Comtee. of the American A.S. Society is to have a meeting, and, among other matters, the question of their Annual Reports, both those which are behind-hand, & that for the current year, will come up. I need not tell you how disappointed we feel, as individuals, at the delays to which these Reports have been subjected; and especially at the protracted delay of those which we had so confidently looked for on the first of May last.

Please let me know the present state of the work, - what stage in it you have reached, & what you estimate (both in regard to quantity of matter & of time necessary for completion,) may be the further delay. Also - what plan you would recommend to the Comtee, as to the completion & publication of these Reports, or any of them. My own opinion is that, as one-half of the Society's year has again expired, it would not be expedient for us to publish now, nor until next Spring. But I



do not speak for any other one of the Comtee,  
nor do I know that such is the opinion of  
any other one, - nor do I give it as my own  
settled conclusion. I confess I am  
puzzled as to what to advise, - the more  
particularly as we have not the means  
in hand to enable us to act, or decide  
upon any line of action. - It is very  
possible that the Ex. Com. would vote to  
publish, by itself, the report for the year  
ending May, '61, if they could get it. That  
w'd bring the Buchanan-Breckinridge dynasty  
to a close, and would give a few of the  
opening scenes of Mr. Lincoln's Administration.  
- Then, if we could follow that up, by the  
publication, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May next, of a  
Report covering the first 2 years of the  
National Struggle with the Rebel Macehods,  
we should stand respectably before the  
Members of the Society and before the Comtee.

Please write me on the whole subject,  
so that I may get your letter, at the latest, by 1 o'clock  
P.M. of next Thursday, i.e., the 23<sup>d</sup> - that I may



have somewhat of a reliable character to lay  
before the Committee. - Direct to me at  
221 Washington St., Boston.

---

The Ms. of your Report on the "John Brown  
Year" is, and has long been, at the Office.  
Have you any directions to give about it?

Please not fail to give me an  
answer as soon as possible.

Very truly Yours

Saml. May Jr

ms. p. 1, 6 v. 9, p. 48